1: Dzhanashvili, M.G. Abkhaziya i abkhaztsy /Abkhazia and the Abkhaz/. Zapiski Kavkazskago Otdfela Imperatorskago Russkago Geograficheskago Obshchestva /Memoirs of the Caucasus Section of the Imperial Russian Geographical Society/, Book 16, pp. 1-59. Tiflis, 1894.

Harvard: P Slav 623.310 [HRAF MS: pp. 1-69]

Translated from the Russian for the Human Relations Area Files by Aza Tugan and Elma Kasbek.

[Approximately half of this source is concerned with the religious beliefs of the Abkhaz; in particular, their deities, the prayers and ceremonies honoring them, causes of illness and magical therapy, souls of the dead and fate. The remainder presents general ethnographic information about social life (marriage, the fosterage system of the upper class, etc.) and some notes on mortuary practices.]

Field date: no date
Analyst: Joan Steffens

Evaluation: Linguist-4
Processed in 1964-1967

2: Byhan, Arthur. Kaukasien, Ost- und Nordrussland, Finnland: I. Die kaukasischen Völker [Caucasians, East and North Russia, Finland: I. The Caucasian Peoples]. Illustrierte Völkerkunde, edited by Georg Buschan, Vol. 2, part 2, pp. 749-844. Stuttgart: Strecker und Schröder, 1926.

74 text figures; 1 map.

Yale: Nkb18. 910bb. v. 2/2 [HRAF Ms: pp. v., 1-122]

Translated from the German for the Human Relations Area Files by Robert B. Lees.

/This source presents information on the clothing, dwellings, economy, social organization, marriage customs, burial practices, religious beliefs and ceremonies, law and art of the Abkhaz.

Comparable material has been given for other groups and has been marked for the appropriate file: Cherkess (RH5); Chechen (RI5); Lezgin (RH8); Osset (RH9); Mountain Jews (RK5); Karachai, Taulu, and Kumyk (RH7); and Caucasia (RH1). --Analyst/

Field date: no date
Analyst: Joan Steffens

Evaluation: Ethnologist - 4
Processed in 1963

3: Janashia, N.S. The Religious Beliefs of the Abkhasians. Georgica, Vol. 1, Nos. 4 and 5, pp. 117-153. Hertford, England: The Georgian Historical Society, 1937.

Yale: Bw51g. 12. 1

[This article represents a revision in 1914 of materials collected ca. 1900 in the village of Adzvibzha in southern Abkhasia (the province of Abzhua). The author describes the gods of the Abkhaz and the religious ceremonies connected with them. The discussion follows the established order of church festivals, centering around the four chief holidays of the year (the New Year, Easter, the Assumption, and Christmas).

This is a translation of the article published in Khristianski Vostok, The Christian East, Petrograd, 1915, vol. iv, No. 1, pp. 72-112. -- Analyst]

Field date: ca. 1900
Analyst: Joan Steffens

Evaluation: Indigene-5
Processed in 1963

4: Janashia, Simon. The Abkhasian Name of the Supreme Being. Georgica, Vol. 1, Nos. 4 and 5, pp. 287-289. Hertford, England: The Georgian Historical Society, 1937.

Yale: Bw51g. 12. 1

[The author discusses the question of the plurality of the chief deity of the Abkhaz through an analysis of its name - antswà. The material was collected in the village of Adzvibzha (in Abzhua, the Kodor district).

This is a translation of the article published in Georgian in Dselidsdeuli - The Year Book, of the Georgian Philological Society, Tiflis, 1923-1924, vol. i-ii, pp. 69-73. -- Analyst]

Field date: 1921
Analyst: Joan Steffens

Evaluation: Indigene-5
Processed in 1963